

ENQUIRIES



To be propounded to the most Ingenious of each County in my Travels through England and Wales, in order to their History of Nature and Arts.

I. Concerning the Heavens and Air.

K Now you of any body in this County that has seen any strange appearances in the Heavens, such as *Parbelia*, or Mock-funs, *Irides Lunares*, or Rain-bows in the night, or any other unusual *Meteors*? Has there any body ever heard any strange voices, or unusual sounds in the Air? Or has there any other thing happened hereabout unusual in the Air, in the Winds, or in any *Tempest* that has happened here? Is there any places where the Wind, or any noxious steams break forth of the Earth? Has there any Earth-quakes happened here, and what have been the effects or other circumstances of them? How stands this Country as to matter of sickness or health, with what Constitutions does it agree best? What Diseases are most common here, or are there any peculiar to the place? Know you of any considerable Echo in this County, is it articulat, or inarticulat?

II. Concerning Waters.

2. What Springs have you near this place? Is there any that break forth at the very tops of hills, or in plains? Have you any strange Fountains in this County, such as are reputed to break forth but now and then, as against a dearth of Corn, War, Plague, &c? Such as ebb and flow with the Sea? Know you of any Petrifying waters hereabout? in what time do they turn wood, moss, grass, leaves, or any other substance into Stone? and in what method? Are there any ancient Aqueducts or Water-works, Cataracts or falls of water hereabout? What Rivers, Lakes, Pools or Ponds have you that have any thing unusual in them? have they any Fish peculiar to them? and as to other Fish, what are the kinds and quantities of them? their bigness, goodness, seasons, haunts, peculiarities of any kind, and the ways of taking them, if not common? Have you any Rivers that run under ground for some space, and come forth again, or such as are finally swallow'd by the earth? Have you any Salt-Springs in this County, to what uses put, and how ordered? Are there any Medicinal waters near this place of any unusual colour, smell, or taste? and what effects have they wrought? do they tinge the stones or earth near their exit, of a rusty or any other colour? do they lose their virtues in carriage or no, or let fall any sediment in standing, and thereby become enervated? In general, what proportion hold the waters of this County as to gravity and levity, comparatively among themselves, and with the waters of other Counties?

3. Enquire of Seamen concerning Navigation, of the most considerable Currents about England, of Tydes, of Eddy's of Water, of the saltness of the Sea, why not every where alike,

and what quantity it holds near the place where you then are? Whether they ever perceived any difference in the steams or smells of the Sea, and whether some Seas are not more healthy than others? Enquire also of them of the Gulfs between England and Normandy, and at the Lands-end? of Lands, Cities, and Castles drowned in the Sea? of strange and unusual Tides, and whether there be not annual as well as menstrual Spring-Tides, that fall out about the Equinoxes, or at the beginnings of Febr. and November? Of any strange shells of odd shapes or turns? fishes, herbs, stones, sands, or any other unusual thing that they have observed on the coasts of England and Wales? What Waters or Liquors hold best at Sea? Enquire also of them for the stone Sagda?

III. Concerning Earths and Minerals.

4. What variety of Earths are there in this County, and how lye the beds of mould, clay, sand, &c. one above another? have you any sands or earths of use hereabout, such as sands for the Glass-houses, for improvement of Land, Fullers-earth, Boles, Peats, Ochres, Tobaccopipe-clays, black Chalk, Ruddle, Umber, Clays famous for brick or tile, or other Earths remarkable for their colour, weight, smell, taste, &c. What Marls have you in this County, how deep do they lye from the surface of the ground, what the depth of the Marls themselves, and what their colour? Upon what Grounds are they chiefly used, at what time of the year laid on, how many loads to the Statute Acre, what Grains will marled Land bear best, and how many years together? how such marled Land is to be used afterward? Is there any Cole dug hereabout? Have you any petrifying Earth near you, or know you of any place where the Earth sensibly grows or decreases? Are there any Mountains in this County noted for any thing, Precipices, or Caves in the Earth? Has the Earth here any hidden qualities, as that of Ireland against venomous Beasts? or know you of any other thing unusual attending the Land?

5. Have you any Minerals found or dug in this County, such as Sulphur, Arsenic, Orpiment, Calamy-stone, Black-lead, Vitriol, Alum, Stone-coal, Amber, Jet, Niter, Salt? or doth there any Naphta or Petroleum swim on the water, or distil from any rock hereabout?

IV. Concerning Stones.

6. Know you of any Stones not common in this County, such as Hyacinths, Emraulds, Achats, Jaspers, Chrystals, Emery, Spars, Marble, Serpentine, Manganese, Magnets, Etites or Eagle stones, Goldstones, transparent Pebbles, &c? Or are there any Stones found here curiously wrought by nature, either like Animals; as Oysters,

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fers, Cockles, Escallops, Serpents, &c? like Vegetables; as *branches or leaves of Plants, Malons, Olives, Apricots, Pears, Peas, &c?* like inanimat things; as *Spears or Arrow-heads, Crosses, Globes, Stars, drops of Water, Cakes, Sugar-plums, Letters of the Alphabet, Geometrical figures, &c?*

7. What Quarries of Free-stone are there in this County, are they of a *fine or coarse* grain? brittle or tough? whether good fire, or weather stone, or both? in what order do the beds lye? do they dip, or lye in *plano Horizontis*? whether better *subbedded* in work, or laid as they grew in the bed? Are there any Quarries of Mill-stones, Grave-stones, &c. of Lime-stone or *Slates* near this place? and what are the signs of their goodness or badness? Know you of any place where *Flints or Pebbles* sensibly grow? or where beds of *sandy, chalky or loamy* matter grow into stone? Are there any *Alabaster*, or Quarries of *Marble* in this County? if so, of what colour and hardness? and whether *lineated* with veins of a different colour from the body of the stone? whether it be apt to cleave one way rather than another? whether any *Flints, Pebbles, A-chats*, or other stones be found in it different from the body of the stone it self? Know you of any body that has invented, or is master of any curious *plaster, cement*, or knows any excellent *earthen materials*, or artifice for flooring of *Barns* or other *Rooms, Garden-walks, &c.* that shall not crack or wear much in a very long time? or know you of any other materials of this kind of excellent use in building, and wherein they excel?

V. Concerning Metals, &c.

8. Is there any *Gold, Silver, or Electrum* dug or found in this County? any *Copper, Iron, Tin, or Lead-ores*? any *Bismuth, Antimony, Quick-silver, Bell-metal, Zinc or Spelter, Zaffer, Manganese, Chrysobolla*, or native green, *Ceruleum* or native blue, *Cinnaber, Lignum fossil, Amianthus, Fossile teeth*, or any kind of Ore unknown to you?

VI. Concerning Plants.

9. With what unusual Plants doth this County naturally abound? what Vegetables naturally flourish best in *sandy, chalky, clayie, or marly* earths, &c? and what may be the supposed reasons why some Plants will thrive best, where some others will not grow? What Vegetables naturally prosper best (or at least will endure) over *Minerals*, or the *Metallic* soils of this County; or others, that abound with such and such vapors? what Salts are most appropriat to each Plant, and what quantity? the exceeding whereof renders the Earth incapable of producing or preserving what Plants? Know you of any strange or prodigious Plants or Trees, extraordinary either in their growth, fruit, leaves, or time of blossoming? Or have you any undescribed Plants, or others of special note, naturally growing hereabout? What quantities of *Wood-land* have you in this County, and what sort of wood is the most profitable? What quantities of *Timber-Trees* have you here, and what Trees be they that are accounted *Timber*? what vent have you for *Wood and Timber*, and at what value per hundred, load, cord, or tun?

10. Know you of any body hereabout skilful in Gardening, that has observed what manure is most proper for this or that natural earth, or what Earths are best mixt together, and for what Plants most agreeable? Has he observed

what Insects are peculiar to Plants, and whether the same Plants have not sometimes different Insects, especially in dry and wet years? What are your usual means of preserving and improving Woods in this County, or has there any body any peculiar way of improving them here? at how many years do they usually fall their underwood and tall wood, what parts of it for fuel, and what for use, such as *Axel-trees, Hop-poles, Hoops, Stakes, Hurdles, &c?* Whether do you draw your Woods, or fell them together, which of these accounted best, and for what reasons?

11. Has there any body hereabout observed the diseases of Plants, or knows ways of prevention or cure? especially of the *bleks or blisters* we find on the leaves of many shrubs and trees? thinks he them infected from the Air without, or by juices within, or by both? and when by one, or the other, or both together? and for what reasons? Has he observed that the blisters of some Plants have Insects in them, others Fungus's on their tops, others that have neither? knows he these Plants distinctly, and whether these things be not so accidental that they sometimes interchangibly alter? What are the diseases of your Timber in this County, by what signs may they be known, whether any way to be prevented or cured? Can any body hereabout inform how it comes to pass that of the seeds of many Plants, such as *Oak, Elm, Ash, Beech, Yew, Juniper, Hemp, &c.* there will come some Plants again that will never bear seeds? Or is there any body knows any other thing considerable concerning Plants?

VII. Concerning Husbandry.

12. How many sorts of Grain are there sown hereabout? and first, how many sorts of Wheat? Do you sow hereabout any *double Wheat*, red bearded *Kentish Wheat*, red *Lammas* with ailes, red *Lammas* without ailes, the red stalk Wheat, white *Lammas* with ailes, white *Lammas* without ailes, mixt *Lammas*, cone Wheat with ailes, cone Wheat without ailes, *Square gray* with ailes, otherwise called *Dunover, Duck-bill* Wheat, and *Duke* wheat; *Square gray* without ails, *Aleppo* wheat, *Poland* wheat, *Not* wheat, *Pendule* wheat? Know you of any other sorts of Wheat sown in this County distinct from these, and for what Land have you observed any of these or others to be best, and wherein do any of them excel? What *Barley's* sow you here beside the common *Barley*? have you the *rathe-ripe, foul-eared, sprig* of *Livonia*, *winter, naked*, and *Not* Barleys sown here, or any other *Barley*? if so, for what Lands have you observed them best, and wherein do any of them excel?

13. As for Peas: do you sow hereabout the *Henly-gray, Vale-gray*, the *blew* Pea, *Maple* Pea, *Sandwich* Pea, *Hampshire-kids*, the *Horn-gray*, *early-white*, *latter-white*, *blew* and *green* Pea, *Bow-dies*, *Red-shanks*, *Cotswold* Pea, *Partridge* Pea, *Black-eyed whites*, *small rathe-ripes*, the *Rose* Pea, the *Horn* Pea, *large Huffsods*? And as for Beans: do you sow hereabout the *great garden French* Beans, *red* and *white*; the *middle* sort, *red* and *white*; the *field Horse-bean*, *black* and *white*; the *least* Bean? As for Vetches: do you sow hereabout the *Gore-Vetch*, *Pebble-Vetch*, *Winter-Vetch*, *Rathe-ripe* Vetch, *Dill*, or *Lentils*? And as for Oats: beside the common *black* and *white*, do you sow any *blue* Oats, *naked* Oats, *bearded* Oats of *N. Wales*, *Poland* Oats?

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Oats? or any other Peas, Beans, Vetches, or Oats distinct from these, and for what Lands have you observed any of these or others to be best, and wherein do any of them excel?

14. What unusual Grains sow you in this County, such as Woad, Woad, Hemp, Flax, Line-seed, Rape, or wild Turnep, Caruwaies, bastard Saffron? Know you any other such sown in this County, for what Land are they best, how to be ordered, and wherein do they excel? How many sorts of Grasses (the usual name for any Herbage sown for Cattle) do you sow here, such as Clover, Saint-forn, Ray-grass or Everlasting-grass, Lucern, Buck-wheat, Medick? Know you of any other Grasses sown in this County distinct from these? if so, for what Land are they best, how to be ordered, and wherein do they excel?

15. Has there any body hereabout found out any new improvement of Arable or Pasture Land, or other curiosity in Husbandry? as in plowing, sowing, harrowing, rolling, hewing, hedging, ditching, planting, grafting, gardening? What variety of Soils have you hereabout, are they sandy, gravelly, stony, chalky, clayie, maumy? Have you any light-mould, red-land, stone-brash, four-land, marish, boggy, fenny, or cold weeping-grounds? What particular preparations are used to each of these for each kind of grain? with what kind of manure improved; when, how, and in what quantity is the manure laid on? at what seasons, and how oft are each of these plowed for each grain? and how long are these several grounds let lie fallow?

16. How many sorts of Plows, Carts, Harrows, Rolls, Rakes, Forks, How's, Skry's, Fans, Shovels, Spades, Matocks, or other instruments of Husbandry have you in this place, and wherein do they excel? how many ways of Sowing have you here? how do you preserve your Corn in the Field from Weeds, Flys, Birds, Worms, Moles, &c? also from blighting, smutting, melderwing, and what are conceived to be the causes of these? how do you order your Corn when green, if too rank, &c? have you any peculiar ways of harvesting your Corn, dressing it, or of preserving it in the mow or stores, from rain, beating, rats, mice, must, or other inconveniencies? Has there any body hereabout any new ways of ordering their Horses, Oxen, Cows, Sheep, Goats, Hogs: &c. in their feeding, working, &c?

17. How are the above-mentioned Soils prepared when they are used for Pasture or Meddow? what are the several kinds of grasses naturally growing in such grounds in this County? and which are the best accounted of? and why so accounted? How do you preserve your Pastures and Meddows from weeds, moss, four-grass, beth, fern, bushes, bryars, brambles, broom, rushes, sedges, Juniper, gorse or furses? what kind of Grass is fittest to be preserved for Winter feeding? and what Grass is best for Horses, Oxen, Cows, Sheep, Goats, &c? what are the chief circumstances observed in cutting Grass, and what in the making and preserving of Hay? Know you of any body that has any peculiar way of Inning or draining Marshes, Bogs, Fens, or of destroying and improving fursie, beathy, or broomy grounds, or has any other improvement in Husbandry whatever?

VIII. Concerning Animals.

18. Do you know of any body in this County studious in Insects, an observer of the works

of Bees, Silk-worms, &c. or has any peculiar ways of ordering them? Is there any body that has been curious in observing the origin, the perfection, and corruption of Insects, their diseases and cures? Are there any Birds, Fishes, or Reptils, peculiar to this County, and know you any thing remarkable concerning them? Know you of any strange Beast, Sheep, Goat, Dog, Hog, Horse, Ox, Cow, Deer, &c. of any unusual quality or mixt generation, of great age or wonderful bigness? or any other Animal that has been attended with any unusual circumstances?

19. Know you of any strange accidents that have befallen Men or Women? Of any prodigious Births, numerous Off-springs, Hermaphrodites? Men or Women extraordinarily alike? of prodigious memories? of extraordinary stature, either in excess or defect? of any that have strange antipathies to meats, drinks, animals, &c? of unusual fastings, sleep, dreams that have strangely come to pass? of Men of extreme age, of sudden deaths? or of any reputed dead that have strangely come to life again? Know you of any thing remarkable that attends a Family in their lives, or death? Are there any ancient Sepulchers hereabout of Men of Gigantick stature, Roman Generals, or others of ancient times? has there ever been any certain apparitions hereabout? Know you of any strange customs now in use in this place? or any strange confusions in consanguinity or affinity?

IX. Concerning Arts.

20. Is there any body hereabout that has Invented any thing, or made any Improvement in any of the Liberal or Mechanic Arts? in Physic, Anatomy, Astronomy, Geometry, Arithmetic, Music, Architecture? Are there any Buildings hereabout extraordinary in the whole or parts, such as Churches, Colleges, Town-Halls, Conduits, Dwelling-houses of the Nobility and Gentry, barns, stables, mault-houses, mills, stair-cases, chimney-pieces, windows, &c? What Trades are there peculiar to this place? Know you of any stupendous or curious Engins? Is there any body eminently curious in this Town, or any body that has any thing peculiar to himself in clock-work, lock-work, carving, painting, graving, etching, dying, weaving, needle-work, straw-work, or any other Handicraft? Where, by the way let it be noted, that the Undertaker of this Design desires not to dive into the mystery of any Trade, but only to represent matter of fact, and so many of the circumstances as may be communicated without discovery of the Mystery.

X. Concerning Antiquities, &c.

21. Was there ever any ancient Seats of Kings in or near this place, any ancient Baronies, Abbeyes, Priories, Preceptories, Nunneries, Colleges, Chanteries, Hospitals? Are there the remains of any ancient Castles or Fortifications hereabout, any ancient Ways or Banks of Land now remaining, any Barrows, or ancient Monuments of Stone? Were there ever any Parliaments, Councils or Terms held here? any Battles anciently fought near this place? Find you hereabout any ancient Mony, Urns, Lamps, Lacrymatories, Pavements, Bracelets, Rings, Seals, or other British, Roman, Saxon, or Danish Antiquities? and whether any Gentleman hereabout have any such in his possession?

22. How

